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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All Scientific Papers submitted for Publication must be Typewritten.

Notify the office promptly of any change of address, in order that mailing list and addresses in the Register may be corrected.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

With this, the December issue, the Eighth Volume of your JOURNAL is completed. When we began publishing there were many of our members who had grave doubts that even the first volume would be completed; but we are still here and the JOURNAL will probably continue to be issued long after the original doubts or the early struggles have been quite forgotten. If you would see the JOURNAL continue to grow and to improve as it ought to improve, then help to bring about that result. The JOURNAL is almost entirely just what the members of the Society make it. If they write better papers, if they contribute good suggestions, valuable case reports, scientific reviews or editorials of value, by just that much do they improve their own JOURNAL. There are a few (fortunately only a very, very few), captious critics who find little if anything in the JOURNAL to meet their approval. But they do not count; they seldom approve anything very much, unless it is their own work or something with which they have had to do. During the year just closed, more help and co-operation have been given to the editor than in any previous years; the Publication Committee has been more active in the work of securing scientific matter of value. To all of the various gentlemen who have helped, and especially to Dr. Lartigau and to Dr. Russ, the editor wishes to express his very sincere thanks. Criticize anything you see to criticize; help all you possibly can to make the JOURNAL bigger and better; but don't knock. Aimless knocking hurts everybody and does nobody any good.

In January the legislature will begin its sessions and we should carefully consider some things in advance of that event. There always have been those who wish to break down the slight protection afforded the public by any sort of a decent medical law, and there doubtless always will be such; therefore, we may expect that bills will be introduced either creating a new medical law or emasculating the present one. Also, there may be attempts to create special licensing boards; similar bills have been introduced at every session. If it has not already been done, each and every man who has been elected to the legislature should have this matter carefully and fully explained to him before he goes to Sacramento; after he gets there the pressure of work makes it almost impossible for one to devote a great deal of time to the consideration of these questions. The medical law is a police regulation intended for the protection of the public; it is not intended for the protection of the medical profession and the Supreme Court has decided that it is not a law of that class. Special licensing boards mean only one thing—easy entrance into the practice of medicine for persons who can not or will not pass the required examination. The basis of the present law is sound and just; it requires that anyone of any school or sect must demonstrate that he knows enough of the make-up of the human body to do the minimum of harm. It does not favor any school or class but treats all alike in every particular. All bills creating new boards of examiners in any way should be defeated; all changes or amendments to the present law should be defeated. The time will come when we can establish a safe reciprocity with other states, but it has not yet arrived. The present law is not perfect, but it is about as good as anything we could get and it does furnish the public with reasonable protection against ignorance and greed. Explain these matters to our legislators before they go to Sacramento and get too busy to take time to think them over.

That is what we are trying to make the office of the State Society—a medical clearing house. A place where all the various lines of medical interest and activity in California will center.

A MEDICAL CLEARING HOUSE.

Practices for sale or exchange; locations wanted or open; offices to be shared; office attendants wanted; everything of that sort should find its way naturally to the office of the State Society. If the Society exists at all, it exists for the benefit of its members and the more benefit it can be to them, the more do they appreciate the Society, thus increasing its strength and its influence. Co-operation is the essential spirit of the Twentieth Century. Co-operate right here at home and thus, incidentally, do yourself some good; you never can tell when you may want a little co-operation. Help us to make the office of the Society useful in the way suggested and you will find, some day, that you have helped make for yourself a very useful institution.